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TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Inventor: Craft et al.

Serial No: 09/675,352

Filing Date: 9/29/00

Title: METHOD FOR PREGOBGING  
AN OPTICAL FIBER AND  
SYSTEM PRODUCING  
OPTICAL FIBER THEREFROM

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: J. Hoffmann

REPLY

#11/B(E)  
2-1403

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

### RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action dated November 6, 2002, designated as Paper No. 10 in the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendments and consider the Remarks as follows:

#### In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

(Twice Amended) 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of heating is accomplished by at least one induction coil heating the preform.

(Twice Amended) 13. A method for manufacturing an optical fiber preform, comprising the steps of:

- a) heating a consolidated optical fiber preform within a chamber of a heating furnace having a first temperature profile to allow a gob to drop under the influence of heat and gravity,
- b) removing additional glass from the preform in the heating furnace until a draw tip having a pre-optimized tip shape is formed wherein the pre-optimized tip shape includes a tip taper having a ratio, defined as tip length divided by radius change over the tip length, of between about 5 to about 12, and